Iowa’s Mortuary Operational Response Team

- The mission of the IMORT is to provide identification services and care for decedents in a mass fatality event.
- The IMORT is a partnership between IDPH, the Iowa Office of the State Medical Examiner, and other governmental, professional, and private businesses in Iowa.
- IMORT members come from all corners of the state and have diverse backgrounds. Membership consists of forensic pathologists, medical examiners, funeral directors, forensic specialists, medical death investigators, and law enforcement.

**IMORT Capabilities**

- IMORT works closely with law enforcement agencies to identify, preserve and collect evidence that will aid in determining cause and manner of death.
- Members use GPS, photography and other technology to document a decedent’s location and other pertinent information for future scene reconstruction.
- Teams recover and process remains in a respectful and dignified manner at all times. Remains will be returned to families as soon as possible.
- IMORT members assist survivors in obtaining family assistance and crisis intervention services following an incident.

**Volunteer Requirements**

- Volunteers filling positions requiring current certification or licensure must maintain the ability to practice in Iowa.
- Volunteers should be willing and able to deploy anywhere in the state for 24 to 96 hours.
- The IMORT requires training related to its unique activities. Additional trainings may be required for specific IMORT positions.
- All IMORT members are required to have taken the following basic trainings:
  - IS 100: Introduction to the Incident Command System
  - IS 200: ICS for Single Resources and Initial Action Incidents
  - IS 700: Introduction to National Incident Management System
  - Hazmat Awareness or Basic Disaster Life Support
- IDPH coordinates regularly scheduled required team meetings.

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